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**Creative Writing Syllabus Room: B-5**

**Mrs. Meaghan Axel Planning Pd: A: 5th B&C: 6th**

**Email:** [axelm@dcpsmd.org](mailto:axelm@dcpsmd.org)

**Website:** [ndaxel.weebly.com](http://www.ndaxel.weebly.com)

**Course Description**

This course is designed to develop your writing skills. You will explore a variety of writing genres and styles and publish original writing.

**Course Requirements**

You will be required to write, peer revise, and participate in discussions and readings. I ask that you try your best every day and take risks with your writing. I expect you to make mature decisions.

**Textbooks and Resources**

Class Website: <ndaxel.weebly.com>: Assignments will be posted on the class website. This will help you if you have an extended absence and need to make an assignment up to receive a grade.

**Required Materials**

Pencils

Pens

Folder (or section of binder) for Creative Writing

Writing Journal

**Objectives**

You will be able to…

* improve your communication skills for success in high school and beyond.
* demonstrate knowledge of the writing process and produce writing that you feel proud of.
* publish writing that has been edited and revised

**Grading Policy**

As per the county policy, all classwork and homework grades are 40% of the overall final grade. Tests, quizzes, major projects, and essays are 60% of the overall final grade. Please refer to your agenda for the full explanation of the grading policy.

**Guidelines for Success**

* The #1 way to succeed in Creative Writing…communicate with me! Let me know what you need to succeed!
* Be prepared for class.
* Take care of your business (bathroom, sharpening your pencil, passing in late work, etc.) before the bell rings. When the bell rings you should be in your seat working on the warm-up.
* Complete your daily assignments to the best of your ability and meet deadlines.
* Be engaged in class discussions and contribute when working in groups.
* Listen to others when they are sharing.
* Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before contributing to class discussions. Stay in your assigned seat unless you have permission to move.
* Challenge yourself!
* Limit distractions by leaving food, drinks, toys, cell phones, and other electronics in your locker (or at home).
* In the event that you are absent from class, please check the make-up work binder and/or the classroom assistance website [www.ndaxel.weebly.com](http://www.ndaxel.weebly.com) upon your return to class.
* Be organized.
* BE RESPECTFUL
* Have a positive attitude. ☺

**Writing Format**

For all paper assignments, unless otherwise noted, you will need to use this heading:

* Name, date, and assignment name must be written or typed in the upper corner.
* Paragraphs must be indented.
* All writing assignments must be edited for spelling and other corrections before they are turned in.
* All writing assignments that are handwritten should be legible and written in ink.

**Consequences**

Consequences depend of the severity of the offense, but all will result in a phone call or email home.

1. Lunch detention
2. After school detention
3. Office referral
4. Conference with parent/guardian

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| **Unit Description** | **Quarter** |
| **Writing Focus** character, dialogue, setting, point of view  **Grammar Focus** comma usage, sentence fragments, quotation marks  **Assignments** Fiction: cautionary tales, short stories, chapters | Q1  (September 4 – November 7) |
| **Writing Focus** imagery, voice  **Grammar Focus** run-on sentences, parallel structure  **Assignments** Memoir: photos of self, 2nd person, letter to self, emotional map, where I’m from | Q2  (November 8 – January 24) |
| **Writing Focus** figurative language  **Grammar Focus** word choice  **Assignments** Poetry: concrete, two-voice, sonnet, haiku, collage, blackout | Q3  (January 25 – March 29) |
| **Writing Focus** theme, character development  **Grammar Focus** verb tense  **Assignments** Digital Storytelling: video, audio, digital art, blog, etc. | Q4  (April 1 – June 13) |

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(Please detach this portion and submit it to Mrs. Axel. Keep the rest in your Creative Writing folder)

I have read all of the information stated on Mrs. Axel’s Creative Writing Syllabus.  I understand that the guidelines and policies must be followed in order to achieve a positive classroom learning climate that will bring success to my classmates and me. By following **North Dorchester High School’s** philosophy of being respectful, responsible, and ready, I can expect to be successful in this class.  Failure to abide by classroom rules will result in the consequences.  If I ever need extra help or have questions, it is my responsibility to ask Mrs. Axel at appropriate times.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_